

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1445

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 1439

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OEXC, PFOR, SCUL, BU, CZ, HU

SUBJECT: CULTURAL/SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES AGREEMENT

REF: A) PRAGUE 1880; B) PRAGUE 1967; C) SOFIA 1325

1. WE NOTICE THAT REF A PARA 4 SAID "WITH HELSINKI AND BULGARIAN AND HUNGARIAN DRAFTS TO POINT TO", CZECHS MIGHT BE BROUGHT TO ACCEPT U.S. LANGUAGE ON EXCHANGES OF INDIVIDUALS; AND THAT REF B PARA 2 SAYS "IF HUNGARIANS GO ALONG WITH BULGARIANS IN AGREEING TO SPECIFICALLY MENTIONING 'INDIVIDUALS' ..." THIS MAY HELP IN PERSUADING CZECHS.

2. SHOULD BE NOTED THAT WHILE BULGARIANS HAVE ACCEPTED US LANGUAGE ON INDIVIDUALS, EVERYTHING WAS ON AD REFERENDUM BASIS AND WE HAVE NOT HEARD FROM GOB OFFICIALLY ABOUT THE AGREEMENT SINCE THE LAST NEGOTIATING MEETING MARCH 19. FROM PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WE HAVE NO INDICATION THAT SUBSTANTIVE DIFFICULTIES ARE HOLDING UP THE FINAL CLEARANCE, AND IN REF C WE REPORTED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER DID NOT ANTICIPATE TROUBLE. HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE ERRONEOUS AT PRESENT TO STATE FLATLY THAT BULGARIANS HAVE ACCEPTED OUR LANGUAGE, SINCE WE DO NOT RPT NOT YET HAVE THEIR FINAL ACCEPTANCE.

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